SEZs by Infosys

2893. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Infosys propose to set up five SEZs with $400 million budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a Special Zone is also proposed to be located in Orissa State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Government has granted formal approval to M/s Infosys for setting up of sector specific Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for IT/ITES at the following locations:

(i) Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka

(ii) Hinjawadi, Phase-II, Pune in Maharashtra; and

(iii) Hebbal Industrial Area, Mysore, Karnataka.

(c) and (d) Government has not received any proposal for setting up of SEZs in Orissa by M/s Infosys Ltd.

Shortage of pre-paid mobile connections of MTNL and BSNL

2894. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that scarcity of the pre-paid mobile connections of MTNL and BSNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor and number of applications that are pending together with the State-wise break-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD):

(a) to (c) There is no scarcity and no pending application of pre-paid mobile connections of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL).

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is providing mobile connections wherever its coverage exists. However, due to non-availability of network capacity, in some of the areas where BSNL has been licensed to operate mobile service, BSNL maintains waiting list for mobile connections. The State-wise details of the same as on 31.07.2006 are given below:

State	Pre-Paid (Waiting list)
Chhattisgarh	1,00,404
Madhya Pradesh	65,531
Maharashtra	76,833
Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland (North East-II Telecom Circle)	7,356

Waiting lists of telephones in Rajasthan

2895. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the waiting lists of telephone connections in Rajasthan as on date;

(b) how old these waiting lists are;

(c) the time-frame within which these waiting lists would be cleared; and

(d) the details of plan for extension of telephone network in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The current status of waiting list for telephone connections in Rajasthan Telecom Circle is 93,215 as on 31.07.2006. Most of these cases for new telephone connections are from far flung remote and scattered rural areas where provision of new connections are technically non-feasible on landline and existing network of WLL. Due to these constraints, some cases of waiting list are pending for more than ten years also.

(c) These wait listed applicants are being provided telephone connections